SUBJECT No. 60.

Increasing the pay of clerks of Sub-Registry offices.

Mr. Guru Rao, Pleader, Nanjangud Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The clerks in the Registration Department work even more than those of other Departments, but yet their pay is proportionately small and chances of promotion are very few. A man starting on Rs. 6 in the Revenue Department can hope to rise up to Rs. 40 at least. It is therefore prayed that a scale giving the attender a grade from Rs. 6 to Rs. 8, 2nd clerk from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 and the 1st clerk from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 be made as an inducement and encouragement for better work.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 61.

Batta to witnesses for prosecution.

Mr. Dasappa, Arsikere Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Witnesses for prosecution are not allowed any batta. It is requested that they may be given batta.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 62.

The compulsion of night-watch in Unions to be removed.

Mr. Ramanujaiengar, Gubbi Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The compulsion of night-watch in Unions may be removed as it is very inconvenient. Or exemptions may be granted to Brahmins and others.

Reply of Government.—The present rules have been in force since the days of the British Commission and have on the whole proved advantageous to the village community. As long as they remain in force no exemption can be given to particular persons or classes of persons.

SUBJECT No. 63.

Declaration before Sub-Registrars regarding previous mortgage of property.

Messrs. Dhalappa, Anekal Taluk, Ramaiya, and Sinappa, Hoskote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—A declaration may be made before Sub-Registrars that the property referred to in the transaction has not been previously mortgaged.

Reply of Government.—Not necessary.

REVENUE.

(Nos. 64—180).

SUBJECT No. 64.

Abolition of Sayer duty, and connected questions.

Messrs. Kiggi Channakesava Rao, Halgur Venkatasubbaiya and Bettagere Subramanya Bhatta, Koppa Taluk, Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur Taluk; S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL. B., Shimoga Municipality; C. Subba Rao, B.A., B.L., Nagar Sabha, M. R. Giriyappa, Ramiah Gowda and Seshanna, Tirthahalli Taluk; C. Nagappa and Ganapati Subhayit, Aramane Koppa Ramappa, Nagar Taluk; H. Shama Rao and A. Narasimha Iyengar, Sagar Taluk; Venkataramaiya, Hole-Narsipur Municipality; G. Subba Rao and A. Venkatachar, Hole-Narsipur Taluk; Channakesava Setti, Hassan Taluk; Suryanaranappa, Venkata Subbaiya, Suryanarna Setty, Arkalgud Taluk; B. Kesaviengar and Kesavadasaiengar, Belur Taluk; Karnik Nallappa, Mylarappa and Raja Nanjappa Setty, Tumkur Municipal Board.

Messrs. Kudlur Venkataramaiya and Sidda Gangappa, Chamrajnagar.

Messrs. Krishnachar, Aswathaiya and Sanjive Gowda, Goribidnur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The abolition of Sayer duty on arecanut is being prayed for year after year, and last year Government were pleased to remark that the subject was not new and that it was receiving consideration. Early orders may be passed on the subject so that they may take effect from the current year.

(2) It is prayed that the Sayer duty imposed on arecanut may be dispensed with, or if that be not possible, a proportionate duty be imposed on the estimated outturn of the crop and included in the raiyat's khate and the raiyat thus allowed liberty to reap the crop at such time as he may consider most profitable to him.

(3) The present system of requiring the presence of the village officer at the time of harvesting arecanut is disadvantageous to the gardeners. The shekdar with the help of the panchayatdars may be allowed to estimate the probable yield of arecanut and the duty leviable thereon, and prepare a list containing the above particulars and

permit the owners to harvest. This system will be advantageous both to the Government and to the raiyats.

Mr. Nanje Gowda, Krishnarajpete Taluk.

(4) As cocoanut and areçanut gardens have been assessed high, the payment of supari tax is vexatious to the people. It is therefore prayed that either the garden rates may be reduced or the supari tax abolished.

Mr. Surappa *alias* Suryanaranappa, Kolala, Tumkur Taluk.

(5) The system of subjecting supari produced by a raiyat to Sayer revenue does not allow the grower to enjoy unmolested even the quantity allowed for home consumption. It would be better if instead of levying duty on supari produced, a tax, say at six pies per yielding and two pies per immature areca tree, is levied. It would be easy for the shanbhog at the time of his *pahani* inspection to count the number of trees in each garden and thus calculate the amount due by each raiyat. Such sums may be recovered along with the land revenue collections. The raiyat may also be required to intimate to the authorities each time when he plants a new tree.

Mr. C. Sreenivasa Rao: In the address it was stated that it was recognized that the halat was obnoxious and that the question of its abolition was delayed as it involved certain financial difficulties. The members were thankful for the assurance. The garden assessment on areca land in Koppa was Rs. 45,000 while the collections under halat were Rs. 47,000 which was more than the garden tax.

Mr. Channakesava Rao: The condition of the garden-owners in the malnad was daily deteriorating, and some immediate relief was necessary.

Messrs. Shama Rao, Narasimha Iyengar and Balakrishna Rao also spoke to the same effect. Mr. Huchveere Gowda represented that garden owners in the Maidan require quite as much relief as garden owners in the Malnad.

Reply of Government.—As was stated in the Dewan's Address, Government are considering how to give effect to the abolition of the tax without prejudicially affecting the financial position of the State. The abolition when ordered will apply to all areca gardens in the State. Meanwhile Government have also asked the Survey Commissioner to consider whether with the abolition of *halat* a substantial reduction of garden assessment also in the Malnad was not possible.

SUBJECT No. 65.

Extension of khists in the case of areca gardens.

Messrs. Kigga Chennakesava Rao, Halgur Venkatasubbaiya and Bettagere Subramanya Bhatta, Koppa Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The subject of extending khists of kandayam on arecanut gardens as in the case of coffee lands was brought before the Assembly last year, and Government replied that the Revenue Commissioner would be asked to expedite the submission of his opinion. Early orders may be passed on the subject.